

All services provided by the Hawkins County EMA are free to all citizens of Hawkins County.

1. What is Emergency Management?

Emergency management involves the planning, assignment and coordination of the resources available in an integrated program of mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery for natural or man-made emergencies. It provides for the safety of our citizens. Since all known possible hazards have been identified and plans made which address the needs before, during and after an emergency or disaster. We continually review the plans to identify and correct problems and work together with neighboring towns and the Tennessee Emergency Management to insure a correct and adequate response will be made in the event of an emergency or disaster.

2. Why is planning so important?

It is everyone's responsibility to be prepared for any emergency. Initially, emergency services will be consumed with responding to the disaster. It is up to each of us to prepare. Planning in advance will help you, your family and friends manage an emergency in a calm and effective way, which will help keep you safe.

3. What can the HCEMA do for me in an emergency?

The HCEMA is offering emergency preparedness programs (CERT) to explain what any individual can do for his or herself in an emergency, such as making sure you have your supplies where you can easily and quickly access them. The HCEMA can also provide some resources to help you make your individual emergency plan.

During an emergency, Hawkins County's resources may be scarce. That is why we encourage all residents to plan in advance, with neighbors, friends and family so should you need assistance, you have people you can call on.

4. Who will determine what areas need to be evacuated?

The Incident Command Team will make that determination based on the circumstances of the incident to insure the safety of life and property. The Incident Commander will be a high ranking official of whichever agency has the lead role in the incident, (EMA, Fire, Police, Public Health, etc.).